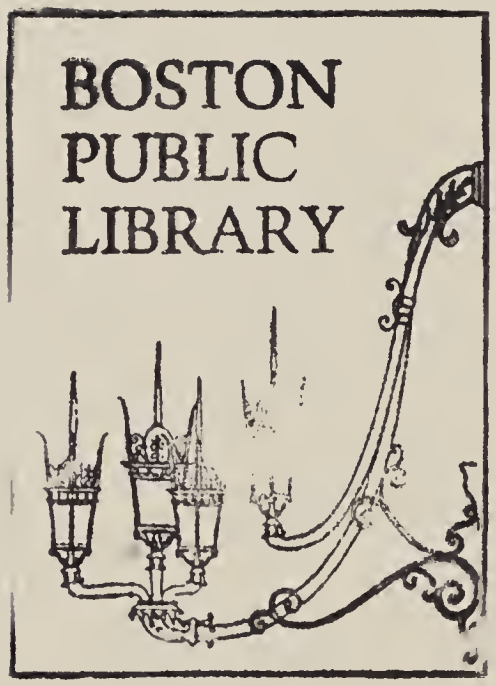

Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs
ANNUAL REPORT 1980

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Edward J. King, Governor

Executive Office of Communities and Development
Byron J. Matthews, Secretary

Commission on Indian Affairs
John A. Peters, Executive Director

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Commission on Indian Affairs
John W. McCormack Building
One Ashburton Place — Rm. 1004
Boston, Mass. 02108
Telephone 617-727-6394/6966

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Edward J. King
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA

Dear Governor King:

The following Annual Report for the year 1980 will summarize some of the activities carried out by the Commission on Indian Affairs in accordance with its legislative mandate.

While progress has not been easy, this year has been highlighted by better working relations and cooperation with state agencies and the state legislature. These forged relations will be of great benefit in the work of the Commission as we continue these efforts.

Sincerely,

John A. Peters
Executive Director

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I N T R O D U C T I O N

In compliance with Chapter 7, Section 39 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the following annual report is submitted summarizing the activities of the Commission on Indian Affairs during the 1980 calendar year.

The Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs was established by an Act of Legislation and officially sworn into office November 1974. Membership of the Commission consist of seven Commissioners and two staff persons (the Executive Director and the Planning & Liaison Assistant).

Although hampered by limited support from the state and a lack of state appropriations the Commission has maintained its deep commitment to its Native American constituency and has managed to proceed in a positive manner in carrying out its mandate. The Commission has, to the best of its ability, continued in referral assistance and information to tribal councils, inter-tribal organizations and Native American individuals. The Commission has established working relationships with state legislators, state agencies, federal agencies, congressional delegates and national tribal governments.

The Commissions' involvement with federal legislation has been rewarding: Public Law 95-608 "Indian Child Welfare Act"; Public Law 95-341 "American Indian Religious Freedom Act"; and Public Law 96-95 "Archeological Resources Protection Act". We are submitting similar legislation to the state on Indian Child Welfare and Archeological Protection. Our intent, primarily, is to assist this state in implementation of the federal laws. We have re-submitted the Indian Housing Authorities bill as well as the Indian Education bill.

Indian relations to state government has its own set of complexities. As citizens (under the Citizenship Act of 1924) they are entitled to equal treatment and equal services. Too often, however, states have used the federal relationship to excuse their service failures. In 1961, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, looking at Indians in

particular, found significant denials of equal protection under law, especially in the fields of education, welfare, housing, child welfare, and the administration of justice. It is worth noting that those complaints were directed, not so much toward federally funded programs, but toward those financed from state and local revenues.

The human rights of Native People, such as determining their forms of governments and protecting their territories, are in serious jeopardy. Indians wear three legal masks and bear relations to three legal authorities: tribal, federal and state. The relationships are complex and not always uniform. They sometimes conflict or leave gaps which give rise to denials of equal protection. There have been accumulated 389 treaties, more than 5,000 statutes, over 2,000 federal court decisions, a raft of attorney general opinions, and many international questions which perpetuate confusion and leave in question whose authority applies at what time.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has paid little attention to these concerns and by according little respect to the rights of Indians it contributes to their erosion. To correct these deficiencies, we recommend that appropriate measures of cooperation be implemented to increase the ability of the Commission, the Commonwealth, and the United States to remove the disadvantages facing the Native population within the Commonwealth. We stand ready to continue efforts toward this end.

The Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs consist of seven (7) Native American Indians appointed by the Governor to represent the Indian populous areas and groups. Each member serves a term of three (3) years. They are as follows:

Edith Andrews, Chairperson 149 Clarendon Street North Dartmouth, MA 02747 Tel # (617) 994-4745	Bristol County
Hannah Averett, Vice-Chairperson Great Neck Road P.O. Box 224 Mashpee, MA 02649 Tel # (617) 477-9362	Wampanoag - Mashpee
Zara Ciscoe-Brough Hassanamisco Reservation Grafton, MA 01519 Tel # (617) 839-5182	Nipmuc-Grafton
Thelma Weissberg (Resigned 9/4/80) State Road Gay Head, MA 02535 Tel # (617) 645-3389	Wampanoag - Gay Head
John Tyndall (Resigned 10/1/80) Boston Indian Council, Inc. 105 South Huntington Avenue Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 Tel # (617) 232-0343	Boston Indian Council
Laini Brodeur 72 Granby Heights Granby, MA 01033 Tel # (413) 467-9145	Balance of State
Bernard Mallory (Resigned 9/1/80) 15 Thorney Lea Terrace Brockton, MA 02401	Plymouth County

BUDGET

The Commision on Indian Affairs requested a budget of $81,061 for FY 80'. The State approved an amount of $37,037.

Again, the lack of adequate funds does not allow the Commision to properly function in its fullest capacity. The overall productivity of the office has been greatly hampered.

The Commision remains staffed with only an Executive Director and a Planning & Liaison Assistant. There were no position funded this year.

Appropriations for 1980 included in our budget of $37,037 are as follows:

Salaries	31,507
Travel	3,700
Printing	540
Office Supplies	900
Rental (equipment)	390

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

During 1980, the Commission continued to seek support by meeting with Senators and Representatives on the two bills: H1031 "An Act Establishing Thirty Full Tuition Scholarships For Native Americans Attending State Institutions of Higher Learning" and S1843 "An Act to Establish Indian Housing Authorities' Written and verbal testimony was presented at hearings, and as the bills progressed through the legislature, letters were written to the various committee members.

Organizations that testified in our behalf are as follows:

HOUSING AUTHORITIES BILL - (Hearing March 12, 1980)
League of Women Voters
Mass National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
Boston Indian Council,Inc.
Falmouth Housing Authority
Nipmuc Tribal Council

INDIAN SCHOLARSHIPS BILL- (Hearing April 2, 1980)
Boston Indian Council, Inc.
Wampanoag Tribal Council of Gay Head
University of Massachusetts-Amherst
League of Women Voters

In December (for the 1981 session), the Commission refiled S1843; the Boston Indian Council, with the full support of the Commission, filed H1031 along with a new bill S779 'Massachusetts Indian Child Welfare". Copies of the two bills, presently before the legislature, are attached.

SENATE . . . . . No. 312

By Mr. D'Amico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 312) of Gerard D'Amico, Samuel Rotondi, Beulah Gray, Kevin W. Fitzgerald and Jack H. Backman for legislation to establish full tuition scholarships for native Americans attending state institutions of higher learning. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS ATTENDING STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 69 of the General Laws is hereby amended by add-
2 ing after Section 7E the following: —

3 *Section 7F.* There are hereby established at least thirty full
4 scholarships for Native Americans residing in the Common-
5 wealth of Massachusetts who qualify for entrance to any state
6 university, state college, or regional or community college, to
7 be awarded by the Board of Regents. As used in this section,
8 "Native Americans residing in the Commonwealth of Massa-
9 chusetts" shall be deemed to include persons (a) who are In-
10 dians of the Wampanoag, Nipmuc, Passamaquoddy, Penobscot,
11 Maliseet, and Mic Mac tribes, or any other tribe determined by
12 the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs to be indigen-
13 ous to the Commonwealth, and (b) who have resided in the
14 Commonwealth for at least three years.

15 There is hereby established an Indian Scholarship Selection
16 Committee, to be composed of five members, one to be selected
17 by each of the following: Gayhead Wampanoag Tribal Coun-
18 cil; Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council; Nipmuc Tribal Coun-
19 cil; the state's designated liaison with resident members of the
20 Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet, and Mic Mac tribes, with
21 whom the state has entered into treaties and other agreements;
22 the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs. Members
23 shall serve on the Committee for terms of three years. The

24 Board of Regents may appoint one person as an Associate
25 Member to the Indian Scholarship Selection Committee. An
26 Associate Member shall serve on the Committee at the pleas-
27 ure of the Board of Regents. The Indian Scholarship Selection
28 Committee shall meet at least four times annually. Members
29 shall be appointed to the Indian Scholarship Selection Com-
30 mittee within ninety days of the effective date of this Act.
31 The Indian Scholarship Selection Committee shall:
32 i) establish criteria for scholarship eligibility under this
33 section; and
34 ii) recommend candidates for scholarships under this sec-
35 tion, who shall be approved by the Board of Regents.
36 Candidates for such scholarships shall apply to the Indian
37 Scholarship Selection Committee.
38 The amount of such scholarships shall be equal to the
39 amount of tuition, fees, and course-related expenses charged
40 by the institution attended. Such scholarships shall also in-
41 clude a stipend equal to the average amount awarded to stu-
42 dents holding comparable scholarships within a given institu-
43 tion. Said scholarships shall be awarded annually for such time
44 as the recipient thereof remains a student in good standing at
45 such institution. Said scholarships shall be payable by the
46 Board of Regents from sums appropriated for scholarship pro-
47 grams.

[Similar Matter Filed During Past Session — See Senate No. 1843 of 1980]

SENATE . . . . . No. 1673

By Mr. Timilty, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1673) of Joseph F. Timilty and John W. Olver for legislation to establish Indian housing authorities. Urban Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH INDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 121B of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding thereto the following new Section 3B: —

Section 3B. There is hereby created, in and for the Nipmuc, Mashpee, and Gay Head Wampanoag Indian tribes, a public body, corporate and politic, to be known as the "Housing Authority" of each said Indian tribe, which shall have and exercise all necessary legal powers to carry out low income housing projects for Indians; provided, that no such Indian Housing Authority shall transact any business nor exercise its powers hereunder until or unless the Tribal Council of the respective tribe, by proper resolution, declares that there is a need for an authority to function therein.

For purposes of this section, "Indians" means members of the above-mentioned tribes and includes members of the Mic-Mac, Maliseet, Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Wampanoag tribes, and any other tribe, band, group or community of Indians who are wards of any state government, and members of tribes who are federally-recognized. In the event that existing Indian organizations, recognized by the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs, are unable to certify whether or not an individual is "Indian" for purposes of receiving Indian housing assistance, the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs shall, upon request of such individual, carry out any necessary investigation and certify whether or not such individual is "Indian".

Each said housing authority shall be subject to and operate as provided in the statutes and regulations of the United States applicable to Indian Housing Authorities.

Except as otherwise provided in this section, but only to the extent consistent with the statutes and regulations of the United States applicable to Indian Housing Authorities, each said Indian Housing Authority shall possess all rights, powers, functions, and duties provided by this Chapter for local housing authorities, and each said Indian tribe shall possess all rights, powers, functions and duties with respect to said Indian Housing Authorities, as are provided by this Chapter for municipalities with respect to local housing authorities, and may require periodic reports from the respective Housing Authorities.

All powers of appointment and removal of members of such Indian Housing Authorities shall be exclusively exercised by the respective tribal councils.

Neither the Commonwealth nor any Indian tribe or tribal council shall be liable for any debts, obligations or liabilities of any Indian Housing Authority; provided, that the Commonwealth or any tribe may assume such liabilities under the same circumstances and for the same purposes as are provided by this Chapter for such assumption of liabilities by the Commonwealth and by municipalities with respect to local housing authorities.

The area of operations of the housing authority of the Nipmuc tribe shall include, but not be limited to, the Hassanamisco Nipmuc Reservation; the area of operations of the housing authority of the Mashpee tribe shall include, but not be limited to, the Fall River-Freetown Wampanoag Reservation; the area of operations of the housing authority of the Gay Head Wampanoag tribe shall include, but not be limited to, the Fall River-Freetown Wampanoag Reservation; but in no event shall such Indian Housing Authorities exercise eminent domain powers outside of the Hassanamisco-Nipmuc Reservation or the Fall River-Freetown Wampanoag Reservation.

The operation of any Indian Housing Authority in any locality shall not affect or diminish the right or power of any

65 other duly constituted housing authority to operate in such
66 locality as authorized by this Chapter.
67 The Governor is designated as agent of the State to apply
68 for funds or other aid, co-operate, and enter into contracts
69 and agreements with the Federal Government, any Indian
70 Housing Authority, or any other appropriate State or local
71 agency relating to the provision of necessary services to Indian
72 housing projects to be located within Indian reservations.
73 Within 180 days from the date of enactment of this Act,
74 the department, in consultation with the Massachusetts Com-
75 mission on Indian Affairs, shall promulgate rules and regula-
76 tions governing the relationship between local housing authori-
77 ties, Indian Housing Authorities and other state and local
78 agencies with potentially conflicting or overlapping functions
79 and responsibilities, and such other rules and regulations as
80 the department determines necessary for the operation and
81 management of an Indian Housing Authority.

1 SECTION 2. If any provision or clause of this Act or appli-
2 cation thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid,
3 such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applica-
4 tions of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid
5 provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
6 Act are declared to be severable.

INDIAN SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL TRAINING COUNCIL, INC.

The Commission was instrumental in assisting a group of Native Americans in transferring title of an 18 acre parcel of land in West Barnstable that was given to the Wampanoag Nation.

The land and buildings were then incorporated into a non-profit organization known as the Indian Spiritual & Cultural Training Council, Inc. located on Route 6A in West Barnstable, MA

Throughout the year, we attended meetings with interested Indian people and discussed the many ways this gift could be used. There are programs and projects that the people would like to see developed. A few of their ideas are to grow a vegetable and flower garden; to raise cattle and other livestock; to rebuild the sauna; to build a sweat lodge; to construct a traditional long house; to use the main building for a temporary shelter; and to hold arts & craft classes. These projects would aid in the development of self determination and self sufficiency.

INDIAN CONSULTANT FIRM

After several meetings with Secretary Byron Matthews, a proposal was written and submitted to him for approval of Native Spiritual and Medicine people to provide spiritual services to social agencies in the State.

Recent federal regulations have opened the way for social service agencies to provide the services of Native traditional spiritual and medicine people as part of comprehensive care programs for Native American clients and recipients. This proposal sets forth a mechanism through which the provision of such services may be accomplished.

Traditional spiritual and medicine people exist in the New England region among a number of Native communities. They receive their training and practice their knowledge according to the traditional ways established during the long history of our peoples. Their work is and has been a vital part of the life of Native people, a fact which the federal government has begun to officially recognize and support. Across the country, efforts are underway in a variety of situations to meet the spiritual, cultural, and health needs of Native people in ways that make sense to these people. Schools, hospitals, foster care homes, prisons, juvenile centers, and other social organizations are developing programs that will affect the survival and spiritual and cultural integrity of Native people.

Recognizing the continuing existence of traditional spiritual and medicine people and the reliance of Native communities on these people as part of their own cultures, and recognizing also the difficulty that social agencies have in supporting this reliance and cultural integrity, the Indian Spiritual and Cultural Training Council proposes to be the conduit through which Native spiritual and medicine people may act as resource consultants to social agencies.

After reviewing the proposal, Secretary Matthews commented that additional work is needed. He feels that it should be brought into focus so that it coordinates with existing human service programs.

It is to be understood that spiritual services are not new. They have always existed but were never introduced into public service programs.

The Commission will continue to assist in the development of this firm.

COAL GASIFICATION PLANT

For the last four months of this year, the commission has spent considerable time monitoring the proposed coal gasification/energy park complex of EG&G which will be located on a 5400 acre tract of woodlands adjacent to the Freetown-Fall River State Forest and Copicut Reservoir. EG&G of Wellesley, MA, a Fortune 500 company active in nuclear power development is currently involved in feasibility studies for the purpose of constructing this plant on that site.

EG&G claims the project is necessitated by New England's dependency on foreign oil. However the 1.6 billion dollar facility (1980 figures) with a proposed life span of 35 years, will only alleviate 12% total reduction of foreign oil dependency.

Based on current available data, this same percentage can be achieved utilizing windmill power alone at much less the cost.

Considering projected trends in inflation, the EG&G coal gasification facility with its own estimated 1986 construction deadline will cost at least 6 to 7 billion dollars.

This project as with other synfuel projects proposed throughout the United States will subsist on loan guarantees from the federal government. Four million of a projected 20 million dollars has already been given EG&G by the Department of Energy towards its feasibility study.

The Commissions' interest stems from the plant site which may encompass parts of the original Watuppa Indian Reservation. Also, the magnitude of this enterprise would create environmental and health related dangers to the land and the people in those areas.

Our activities thus far have involved meeting with EG&G representatives and other interested people. The first meeting took place in the Commission office on Friday,

September 26, 1980 with representatives from Native American Organizations, the Commission, and other concerned and interested organizations. They are as follow:

Princess Necia Hopkins, New England Coastal Schaghticokes
Thomas F. Dawson, American Indian Science & Engineering Society
John Tyndall, Commission on Indian Affairs
Barbara Namias, N.E. Regional Council/Indian Task Force
Ed Selgrade and Peg Harrington, Executive Office of Energy Resources
Max Gowen and Jay Shetterly, EG&G
Sondlo L. Mhlaba, Executive Office of Communities & Development
Edith Andrews, Commission on Indian Affairs
Laini Brodeur, Commission on Indian Affairs

Some of the concerns were:

1. Land - whether or not Indian lands are involved. The Native Americans believe they are because the land in question is the original Watuppa Reservation, now the Fall River Water Shed. The attorney for Hale & Dorr Law Firm is in the process of doing a title search for EG&G.

2. Public Hearing that was held to rezone acres of land from "residential" to "heavy industry". The State Parks & Recreation Commission and the Commission on Indian Affairs were not informed that the City of Fall River was proposing a zoning change. Because the Indian lands are abutting the proposed site, the Native Americans felt they should have been notified of the hearing. Mr. Shetterly responded that they are in the process of purchasing land from Acushnet Saw Mills and they are not that knowledgeable of land ownership.

3. Damage to the Environment - How would the plant be able to control the gases that would escape from the plant? Mr. Shetterly could not give us a figure on the amount of emersion that would develop from this operation.

cont. Coal Gasification Plant

Some of the general questions from the audience were:

1. What type of coal will the plant use? (Some coals have a higher fulfur rate than others).

2. Where will the coal be stored since EPA has no regulations on storage of coal ?

3. What effects will the acid rains and other pollutants have on the environment, and to what extent ?

Mr. Shetterly gave an over-view of the project. He indicated that they are having problems meeting EPA rules and regulations and that a lot of the rules have not been established concerning this type of project. He explained that in Virginia they have a pilot plant that is less than 1/3 the size of the one they are proposing now. He reminded everyone that the plant is still in the development stages and at present, they are only involved in taking a feasibility study. He promised to get complete answers to all these questions and will meet with us again.

EG&G will keep us informed and will send material and information as things develop. Tom Dawson will meet with engineers who are presently working in Virginia on the site, to evaluate the safety and the hazards of the plant.

COALITION FOR PEOPLE'S CONCERNS, INC.

The Commission was involved with, and attended several meetings this year with Coalition for People's Concerns, Inc. The recent issues surrounding the EG&G coal gasification plant/energy park led to the formation of this local citizen action group. The purpose of this committee is to conduct and evaluate research on the environmental, socioeconomic, and political aspects of the plant. The Coalitions' activities thus far have focused on reviewing EG&G estimates, collecting data on economic feasibility of the project, evaluating (with the help of volunteer professionals) the environmental, health related, and occupational impacts of the proposal, and transmitting this information to concerned organizations and citizens throughout the region.

At most of the meetings which were held in Fall River at the Fair Share Office, we discussed ways to educate the people in Fall River and in the immediate areas, to the disadvantages of the plant since they are the ones who will be most affected by it. The plant will cost over $2 billion. It will generate an estimated 700 megawatts of electricity through the combustion of gasified coal produced by a synfuel process involving over 10,000 tons of coal per day. Some of the environmental issues include water use of more than 12 million gallons per day (increasing Fall Rivers use by 50 percent); effects of waste water discharge on Dartmouth and Fall River drinking water supply; environmental health effects and occupational hazards of exposures to coal dust and possible cancer causing agents; storage and use of flammable solvents; air pollution resulting from emissions of an estimated 12,800 tons per year of regulated air pollutants; and production, transport, and disposal of 1,500 tons of toxic slag waste material produced each day.

The Coalition is in the process of compiling this type of information to issue a paper to local newspapers and to disseminate to residents of the abutting areas to keep them

informed of the ramifications of this plant. They will begin to search out existing data on coal gasification and will begin to debate energy alternatives to the facility.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978

On November 8, 1978, Congress passed the Indian Child Welfare Act, PL 95-608 after four years of Congressional study and fact finding. The law stipulates a series of special procedures in child custody proceedings involving children who are members of, or eligible for membership in a federally recognized Indian tribe which the state courts and State Child Welfare Agency must follow. The federal standards require states to protect both the best interests of Indian children and the unique values of Native American culture. The basic federal requirements include transferring jurisdiction to a child's tribe; requiring active efforts to preserve family unity before allowing placement or termination of parental rights; notifying parents and tribes of court proceedings and of intervention rights; writing and recording requirements governing valid voluntary placements or termination; and placement priorities establishing preferences for placement in environments reflecting Indian culture.

Because the federal law protects only those children from federally recognized tribes, efforts are being made by local Native American organizations, with the assistance of the Commission, to create a similar bill in Massachusetts which will reflect the needs and placement of the adopted and foster care Native American children who are not members of federally recognized Indian tribes.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES - CHILD WELFARE

This year several meetings took place with Ellen Weintraub, Department of Social Services - Office of Policy and Program; and with Mrs. Agnes Young, Department of Public Welfare. Representatives from the Algonquin Indian Association, Mashpee Wampanoag Indian Tribal Council, Inc., and the Boston Indian Council, Inc. attended.

These meetings were held in hopes of incorporating some of the Native American views on child welfare into the Department of Social Services regulations and also, to gain the support of the Department on future legislation concerning child welfare.

Some of our concerns are as follow:

1. Placement guidelines for non-federally recognized tribal members;
2. Placement prevention;
3. Determination of childs Indian ancestry;
4. Voluntary & involuntary placement of Indian child; and
5. Transfer of jurisdiction - (who determines)

Information from all of these meetings and the views of each organization were developed into an issue paper and submitted to the Office of Policy and Program. It is our hope that our ideas will be printed into the 1981 regulations.

CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARDS

After we received a call from the DSS, who were seeking names of Native Americans for their Citizens Advisroy Boards in Massachusetts, the office sent out notices and made phone calls to prospective candidates for the seats. These candidates will represent the views and concerns of the Native Americans in the social service areas.

cont. Citizens Advisory Boards

The following names were submitted by the Commission:

1. Suzanne Letendre
2. Corrine Bostic
3. Wallace Merden
4. Richard Haskins

To date, we have received information that Ms. Letendre is sitting on the Boston area board and Mrs. Bostic on the Worcester area board.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE CAREERS PROGRAM (GSCP)

GSCP is an internship program designed to expose college students to career opportunities available as state employees.

Their staff seek internship sites that can provide a positive working environment where an intern can acquire training and skills that will assist him/her in making career decisions.

In February, final steps were made in securing an intern, from Bentley College, for the Spring semester. A young man was hired (paid by GSCP) to begin research on Indian laws, treaties, etc.

CETA

After the initial steps were taken toward hiring (2) CETA workers, a memo was sent out by the Department of Labor to all CETA agencies stating there will be a freeze on all positions. This ended our chances of obtaining additional staff.

MASSACHUSETTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

MIP is mandated to expand practical and innovative public service internship opportunities for students. The internship office works to meet the educational needs of students by coordinating and promoting internships in government and private non-profit community agencies.

The Commission sent several job descriptions to their office in hopes of securing researchers for the Summer semester. In February, (2) interns, one from the University of Massachusetts-Boston, and the other from New England School of Law, were on board. They focused on researching information on the Watuppa Reservation,

the proposed Coal Gasification Plant in Fall River, hunting & fishing laws, and the first Indian agents, commissioners and over-seers.

For the Fall semester (October to December), (2) other interns, both from Boston University, were placed in our office. They also worked in the capacity of legal researchers concentrating on burial sites, Watuppa Reservation, and the hunting and fishing rights.

The Commission will submit job descriptions for the Spring semester.

TITLE IV - INDIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM

WORCESTER

The Title IV-Indian Education Program has received $23,177 from the Department of Education in Washington.

The program will concentrate on restoring the Native American culture in the Worcester School System. Classes will be held on Saturdays for approximately 6 hours to include traditional dancing, traditional music, arts & crafts, Native languages, and medicines.

The program will begin after a Director and teachers have been hired. This should happen sometime in the beginning of January.

INDIAN IDENTIFICATION FORM

The attached form was developed to aid state and private agencies in identifying individuals who claim Indian ancestry for purposes of obtaining employment using minority status and for obtaining assistance from federal Indian assisted programs. An individual seeking employment with one of these agencies is sent to our office to fill out this form. Pertinent data, such as a birth, death, or marriage certificate of a parent or grandparent, with the word "Indian" or "red" or the name of the Tribe on it; or a copy of the tribal roll of the Tribe the person is from, should accompany the form. If an individual does not have this information or does not know how to secure it, we will assist the individual by writing letters to his/her Tribe regarding tribal status or research background and secure birth records through the vital statistics office. This information is also helpful to us in compiling a census of the number of Native Americans residing in Massachusetts.

WARD J. KING
ernor
RON J. MATTHEWS
retary
HN A. PETERS
cutive Director

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Commission on Indian Affairs

John W. McCormack Building
One Ashburton Place — Rm. 1004
Boston, Mass. 02108
Telephone 617-727-6394/6966

Date ----------

I D E N T I F I C A T I O N F O R M

NAME: ----------DATE OF BIRTH: ----------

ADDRESS: ----------

HEIGHT: ----------WEIGHT: ----------TRIBE: ----------

FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED: ----------IF SO BIA # ----------

MOTHER'S NAME: ----------

ADDRESS: ----------

TRIBE: ----------BAND # ----------

FATHER'S NAME: ----------

ADDRESS: ----------

TRIBE: ----------BAND # ----------

GRANDMOTHER'S NAME: ----------

ADDRESS: ----------

TRIBE ----------BAND # ----------

GRANDFATHER'S NAME: ----------

ADDRESS: ----------

TRIBE: ----------BAND #----------

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS & PERTINENT INFORMATION: ----------

APPLICANTS SIGNATURE: ----------

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMENTS:

APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

INFORMATION, REFERRAL, AND ASSISTANCE RENDERED

The Commission referred 220 Native Americans to public and private agencies for employment and assisted 25 Native Americans in securing positions with the Taunton School Department, Plimoth Plantation, Walpole Correction Institute, Filene's Department Store, Augat, Inc., Polaroid Corporation-Pyramid, State Welfare Department, and others.

For the inexperienced and uneducated, there are only unskilled and semi-skilled positions available; these jobs are usually the first to be affected by fluctuations in the national economy. Many Native people are unemployed; this dilemma aggravates their already difficult family life, and magnifies the problem of finding adequate low cost housing. Employment uncertainty is compounded by the fact that many of the existing jobs are seasonal, and involve travel, in which case some families must necessarily be left behind. This situation creates critical problems, such as the breakdown in family unity. Those workers who are able to take their families with them experience hardships which especially affect the children whose education is constantly disrupted. The 25 Native Americans who secured positions were fortunate to have found employment in their general area of residency.

The Commission referred 55 Native American individuals to public and private housing and assisted 15 in securing adequate housing in Boston, Worcester, Lawrence, Mashpee, and Somerville.

One major concern of the Indian community is satisfactory housing conditions. The welfare and unemployment systems have been an ineffectual alternative. Consequently, the Indian are forced to live in inadequate conditions. This impoverishment is reinforced by landlords who fail to maintain the property or who increase rental costs for the tenants. This problem is more distressing when the family is large. Large families,

several generations living together, is a major stronghold of the Indian population. Lack of adequate housing is threatening to disrupt this concept of family.

The Commission rendered assistance to 150 Native Americans who were seeking information on funding sources, scholarships, and student loans. It is important that Native people who are scholastically qualified receive the necessary opportunity to develop their knowledge and skill which would be beneficial to their communities as well as to the proper relationship between Native Nations and the United States.

Presently, the Commission has a bill before the legislature requesting 30 full tuition scholarships for Native Americans to attend institutions of higher learning. These scholarships would allow the student to attend college at no cost to him or his family. Although other means of limited funding exist, such as the basic educational opportunity grant, school scholarships, etc. the competition is extremely large and usually the Native American is weeded out.

The Commission referred 140 Native American alcohol and drug abusers to clinics, halfway houses, hospitals and temporary shelters.

Native people must have an awareness of themselves as Native Americans. This is usually obtained through the family and reenforced by formal education. Unfortunately, young native people attend schools where textbooks ignore or misinterpret the Native American heritage. Indian children come in contact with a mass media that tends to stereotype them, usually negatively. In this atmosphere, they lost fluency in speaking their native language. The knowledge of their native history and traditions fades. When families are disrupted and the schools are biased against them, they retaliate. Many Indian children drift into juvenile delinquency. They fall prey to drinking, drug abuse, and trauancy. Often they run away from home.

cont. Information, Referral, and Assistance Rendered

The Commission referred an encouraged Native Americans in the local community to attend training sessions in New Haven, Conn. through the Northeast Regional Support Center.

American Indian Training/Training Assistance	2
Centralized Training delivers of Basic Management Skills	2
National Manpower and Training System Training of Trainers	1
Family Counseling	2
Counselor Training: Short Term Client Systems	3

The Commission referred 70 Native Americans to private attorneys who are sympathetic and sensitive to the needs and rights of "Native Americans" and we appeared in court in behalf of 15 native persons.

As a consequence of some arrest and/or convictions, Native Americans frequently receive treatment which is unjust. This inequity can be attributed to the Indian's incomprehension of the law and the rights of the individual; inconsistency in law enforcement, and lack of funds to secure adequate legal representation. The commission would like to assist in the development of a "Legal CoOp".

NATIONAL AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Commission on Indian Affairs is an active participant in National and Local organizations. They include but are not limited to:

1. American Friends Service Committee
2. Federated Eastern Indian League
3. Federal Regional Council/Indian Task Force
4. Governor's Interstate Indian Council
5. Institute of Community Economics
6. Inter-tribal organizations in the Commonwealth
7. Millennia
8. Multi-Culture Education Task Force
9. National Advisory Council on Indian Education
10. National Congress of American Indians
11. National Urban Indian Council
12. Northeast Regional Support Center
13. State Archeological Commission
14. Tribal councils within the Commonwealth
15. State Welfare Office
16. Department of Social Services
17. Community Training and Resource Center
18. Governor's Council on Alcoholism - Committee on Special Populations